-A YEAR IN COMICS-

END OF YEAR SUMMARY/REVIEW OF YOUR COMIC CREATION THOUGHTS.

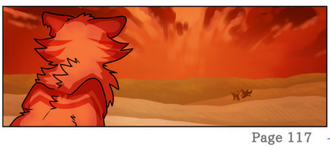
THE DOG STAR

Creator's name: Razmerry

Meme by Songdogs

What was your favorite panel from this year and why?

I was very pleased with this scene in general. It was a big improvement from the previous sunset setting I'd done, and this panel in particular I think shows off my improvement in color planning and backgrounds - as well as a shot from behind, which is always difficult for me.



Page 117

What page were you the most proud of and why?

I mean... it's page 126. I'd been planning the composition and dialogue since before I started drawing the comic, and I only had to really rework one part of it. The page just turned out exactly as I wanted it to.

The response to the page was also phenomenal, which really solidified it as my favorite page and quite a big peak in this challenging year.

What page was the hardest to work on and why?

I lied about it and tried to fix things, but - but nothing was the same.
And she left, Hayfrost left forever, and I didn't have any - anyone else in my home -
and my only friend was a Clan away,
and one day I just broke.
I... I tore Stonescratch to pieces, and then I had to run.
I didn't make it far.

I'd say the lineless pages in the middle of Chapter 5 were my most difficult. They were fun, as I usually enjoy working in a lineless style, but it just meant a lot of layers and figuring out which colors don't clash against each other. Combining backgrounds and characters is harder when you can't use black lineart as a crutch, haha.

Which characters did you introduce this year? If it's more than 5, pick your top 5.

Beavertail, Not an important character but I love her

Hayfrost <3

Reedstar and Newtstar were technically mentioned before, but they only had actual roles in 2020

Which characters died this year? If it's more than 3, pick the top 3 deaths.

LMAOOOOO RIP

Dunno if these three galutes count, since they were in a flashback, but they totally kicked it

What were some of your favorite character expressions/reactions this year?

What was your favorite ~~piece~~ Pieces of comic-related art you made this year?

Both of these are Applestar related pieces, funnily enough. She's just so fun to draw. I like them both a lot, but I'm immensely proud of You Should See Me In A Crown.

What are your comic hopes for next year?

Continue to update twice a week as reguarly as I can!
I think there's a possibility I could finish the comic in 2021, but I'm not going to push myself to do so.

Free space! Tell us whatever thoughts you still have or include a doodle!

Feel free to link to the full pages/art work in the description!

snffle
sob
snf
Foxfall?
What's going on, are you alright? Is your wound reopening?
Snff!
snrrrk
sob
!
Magpiesong, am I useless now?

USELESS?! -
Foxfall, what in the name of StarClan are you talking about?
snffl
snf
I-I overheard Blizzardmask and Leafspiral talking about the battle tomorrow, a-and they said that since I was bound for the elder's den, they'd be down a cat.
I didn't say anything, but... they're right, aren't they?
I can't even run without stumbling. What kind of a warrior am I?

!. . .

. . .

Hey.

Have I ever told you that for a long time, I was called a tom?

Really!

What did you do?

It's true. Didn't mean I ever really felt like one, but when I finally decided to tell my Clanmates I was a she-cat, not all of them understood. The nastiest ones said awful things to me.

I told them to shove it up their tails!

It wasn't always easy, Foxfall. Some things were never the same again, plain and simple.
But there were plenty of cats who helped and accepted me without so much as a whisker of protest. In the end, I found ways to adapt and was all the better for it. I'm a she-cat, a medicine cat, a healer. And you are a warrior.
You promise?
I do.
...thanks, Magpiesong.
Now, I have some *words* I'd like to share with Blizzardmask and Leafspiral!
END!

APPLESTAR

- Combination of boxing and wrestling
- Quick, powerful jabs
- Attempts to flip, overpower, and pin opponents
- Designed to subdue before the killing blow

HOUNDHEART/FLAMESNOUT

- Small, skinny, and fast
- Strikes once before dodging away again
- Mostly keeps out of range of attacks
- When pinned, tends to panic and writhe

SHELLSPRING

- Not a naturally good fighter
- Would rather plan out attacks ahead of time
- Favors biting over clawing
- When in immediate fight, moves become desperate and erratic

REEDSTAR

- Uses size and strength to advantage, throws around weight
- Not afraid to fight dirty
- Toughs through injuries
- Overconfident and talkative in battles

DEERSTAR

- Uses specialized moves but executed poorly
- Would rather flee than fight
- Clumsy when facing quick opponent
- However, accurate and strong when focusing properly

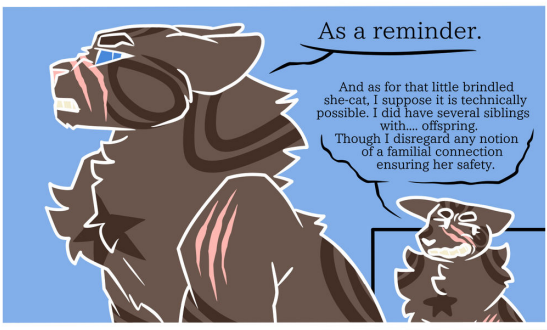
HARESTRIKE

- Doesn't take risks
- Better fighter when working with a partner
- Has sensitive scar points, notable weakness
- Good at dodging and pinpointing targets

Chompgwen6 Feb 8, 2021

To AppleStar, why choose HareStrike to go to the living world?

Applestar- So Lichenstream, any family ties there? Why Harestrike as your number two and not any other Starclan cat?


As a reminder.
And as for that little brindled she-cat, I suppose it is technically possible. I did have several siblings with.... offspring.
Though I disregard any notion of a familial connection ensuring her safety.

Swag-Moon Feb 8, 2021

Hey Applestar, do you feel guilty for the fate that befell Houndstar, or did he deserve it? I know you used to love him.

QuillinxOswaldOCs Feb 11, 2021

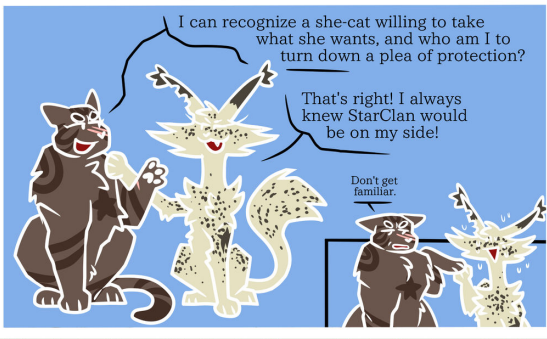
And Applestar,
do you ever regret killing Houndstar?

TheElvenJedi Feb 9, 2021

Hey Applestar, why you so salty? (not expecting spoilers, feel free to meme instead XD)

Alien277 Feb 23, 2021

Applestar: Why did you let Seedstar into Starclan?


I can recognize a she-cat willing to take what she wants, and who am I to turn down a plea of protection?
That's right! I always knew StarClan would be on my side!
Don't get familiar.

To Houndstar: So, what do you think of Houndheart/Flamesnout? Also,how did you become a leader if you were a med cat?

I'm not sure of who this "Houndheart" is, my apologies.
And, to put it simply, we had just lost both our leader and deputy, and the Clan wanted stability.

YumeQueen Feb 22, 2021

Houndstar: what happen between you and applestar?

Morningtide01 Edited Feb 24, 2021

for a character tho, lichen, what were your feelings when your brother left to find that rogue?

I was so young at the time, I didn't even know how to fully process it. We both believed in StarClan so wholly, him getting called on a quest seemed like grand destiny.
After I had to tell the Clan he'd disappeared in the night, and a moon later they all gave up search, perhaps that was when everything really hit me.

grilledcheesecat Feb 10, 2021

hey lichenstream do you like houndheart?

imdedinsidex-x Feb 8, 2021

To Heronpaw (if this is possible) How's life with avalanche? Anything interesting happen in your day to day life? Also, your sister almost got crushed by a rock, but no worries cause she's safe lol

She WHAT
It's an exciting life, I'd say. Heronpaw here had to fight real hard to even find me, an' we keep seemin' to run into trouble along the way back.

To Beavetail: Just wanna let you knwo ur one of my fav background characters. How's life treating you? How's Newtstar?

I'm just GREAT! SnowClan and SunClan haven't been bothering us at all, it's SO NICE!
Newtstar is doing awesome and she is not going to die soon and I am not in denial!

JuliaCallahan Feb 8, 2021

Dovetail, are/were you close with Deerstar?

...I love my brother, but let's just say he did not make an effort to get close to Redpoppy and me. Maybe some... favoritism from our parents affected that, but my sister and I both dealt with it in very different ways.
Haha.

StunGunDenki Feb 10, 2021

Oh oh oh! Questions here! Can you just tell me about Sunspark? Anything is fine, I just love him so much and wanna know more about him!

Sunspark's littermates are Silverdrift and Batwing. They all get along well.
(Duckpaw, Palekit, and Webkit are all younger siblings from different litters.)

Morningtide01 Edited Feb 24, 2021

what inspired you for this story and making a comic?

In 2018 I wrote a short story called "The Dog Star" for a Warriors Amino writing group. I thought it was a fun idea for a comic and wrote down a couple notes in a Google doc.
Three months later I busted out a six-page summary and a thirty-page script in a fevered burst of inspiration. And then I started a comic.

Dawnstarpro Feb 10, 2021

Deerstar, i'm really curious; what was your warrior name?

SleepySundae Feb 8, 2021

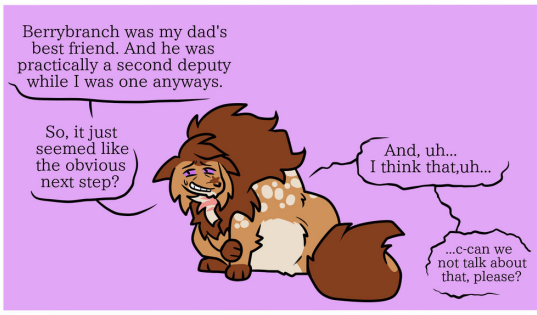
Deerstar... Who's a good boy? WHO'S A GOOD BOY

CharlieBGoode Feb 8, 2021

To Deerstar: how you got so much **swag**?

Deerstar, why did you appoint Berrybranch as deputy?

Deerstar- Why did you choose Berrybranch as your deputy? Do you think the murderer is from inside or outside your own clan?


Berrybranch was my dad's best friend. And he was practically a second deputy while I was one anyways.
So, it just seemed like the obvious next step?
And, uh... I think that,uh...
...c-can we not talk about that, please?

Berrybranch (my favorite 💖) - How did you meet your (presumably) wife?

Also how did you meet your mate?

Well, I was a very lonely young cat, and I never talked to the apprentices much. I'd seen Ripplepaw before, but assumed she wouldn't have any interest in me. So imagine my surprise when, as young warriors, she came right up to me on patrol! I was so surprised I tripped right into a puddle, but she only grinned and helped me up. From then we just kept talking and spending time together. She's a wonderful cat, beautiful and sharp as a talon. I don't know what I'd do without her.

Have you been taking over leadership roles for a while behind Deerstars back? (kinda specific sorry :'0)

Thistlefern Feb 10, 2021

Berrybranch, what happened after you found Deerstar that night?

oops these questions are from February

Berrybranchy: How's life being Berrystar(if you are, that is)

Tch. I'm practically "Berrystar" already, with all the slack I've been picking up from Deerstar.
Those first few days after the attack were awful, and I cleaned up the messes readily enough, but now he barely appears at all.
Leaving me to do *everything*.

Cynthic-Psycho Feb 9, 2021

To anyone/everyone: What are your views on what's currently going on?

OKAY SO -
Batwing still thinks Deerstar totally misremembered what he saw and that a coyote broke into his den and attacked him. She's never believed anything he says, though.
Houndheart's weird as usual, but there's really no way Deerstar could mistake a red cat for a gray one, in my opinion. Lichenstream has a super strong alibi for them that night, too.
Fawnstalk swears up and down that it was a cat because of the teeth-marks on the wound, but she doesn't know who did it.
We've all seen Berrybranch, c'mon. The guy is convinced Houndheart has always had some secret scheme to destroy SnowClan.
I asked Finchwhisker, since Robindapple thinks it was Silverdrift, and she said that her brother's off his rocker, but also she didn't like, have an actual answer to who it could be.
And Plumfeather just laps it right up.
Nobody can really get a read on what Deerstar thinks. Mostly he spends time in his den, but Dove told me what he says to her when they talk sometimes... but she told me not to tell anyone. Personal stuff.

ShinyYveltal12 Feb 9, 2021

All of Star bois except Shelly: how did you guys die?

Haven't you heard? Struck by lightning after days of valiant battle.
In a blizzard... it was really cold and my face hurt so, so much.
In an extremely unfair fight with a deer.
I was bitten by a rattlesnake while alone on a patrol... help couldn't reach me in time. They were not particularly kind last moments.

Tain5 Feb 9, 2021

to all or any (except houndheart/flamesnout): what's your opinion on houndheart? be honest!

AYArtzRamen Feb 9, 2021

to any of the characters, what's something you wanna do before you die?

I... I - I don't know. I just want to be happy.
Well, I'm not planning on dying anytime soon, but I'd like to make some real change to the code. Those stiff old rules could use a shake up.
To see the lands beyond the Clans, I guess. There's only so much you can get from a story without seeing it for yourself.
Maybe Heronpaw and Houndheart and I could all travel together someday...
I'm gonna be the leader of SnowClan! Everyone's gonna think I'm so cool and important and I'm gonna smash up any SunClan cats who try to hurt us!
I have done all I could have hoped to do and more.
All I want is to have left my Clan a better place than when I entered it.

HistoricPotato Feb 8, 2021

To Houndheart and shellspring: what's your favorite type of prey, and why

I'd have to say quails. They're pretty easy to catch, and taste great as well.
Nothin' more fun than quail hunting with a couple of friends.

TaeTheTabooApple Feb 8, 2021

Hey Flamesnout/Houndheart- do you ever think of having/adopting kits one day?

Uh... well, I've considered it, but I dunno how well I'm cut out for being a mother.
I didn't exactly have a great role model growing up.

Flamesnout/Houndheart: Im not stupid..right? Your a boy or a girl, im sorry but im *dumb* you know?!

1ThatOneDeer1 Feb 10, 2021

Houndheart/Flamesnout: How does thinking of Lichenstream make you feel? Also, if there was one person you had do be stuck on an island with, who would you absolutely HATE being stuck with?

HUMINA HUMINA WOOF GRRRR BARK *HEART EYES* AWOOGA
And... out of everyone who wouldn't immediately kill me, I'll go with Plumfeather.

ruddergrl Feb 8, 2021

To Houndheart: what is your favorite memory and why?

...it's a warm greenleaf night. I'm at the barn outside of SnowClan territory. Hayfrost snuck out with me, and Shellspring agreed to meet up with us. We're talking, laughing, and the night feels... infinite.

QuillinxOswaldOCs Feb 11, 2021

Hey Flamesnout/Houndheart, did you ever see Hayfrost in Starclan when you were up there?

Blondepelt48 Feb 8, 2021

Flamesnout, do you still think of [I forgot the cat's name, but I remember them being mentioned to have looked like Seedstar and were made fun of for it] like you did in your first life? Or what do you think of them now now that time has changed and you now love Lichenstream?

No, I never saw Hayfrost in StarClan. I think she'd moved on by the time I left the Dark Forest, and I wasn't gonna pursue her into the outer bounds. Of course I still think of her, though. It doesn't diminish my love for Lichenstream...
...but that was a turbulent time of my life, to say the least. Hard to forget.

Flamesnout/Houndheart, did (or do since you're alive again) you have any other good friends besides Shellspring or was he the only one you trusted that much?

Uhh.
I didn't exactly make many friends while I was alive. Didn't really get along with anyone in SnowClan. I'm still surprised Shellspring - Shellpaw, at the time - even took a chance on that angry little apprentice.
Now?... I guess I do have *some* friends, at least.
I think I've lost him, though.

EclipseWing202 Feb 9, 2021

To HoundHeart do you have any suspicions about who attacked deer star?

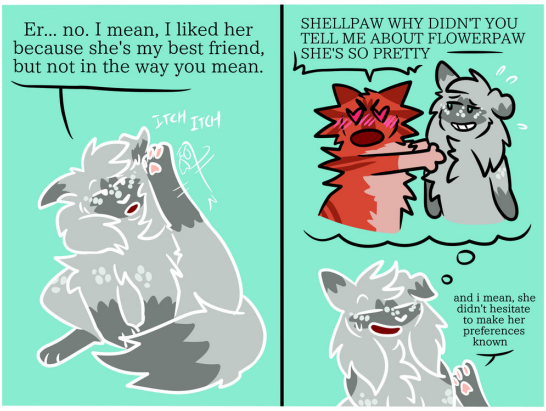
HistoricPotato Feb 8, 2021

To Houndheart and shellspring: what's your favorite type of prey, and why

Minnows!
They were such fun to catch in the RainClan ponds - I used to sit out there for hours just fishing them up.
Plus, they made wonderful treats for the kits. I loved the look on their faces when I brought minnows back.

Dvcky7 Feb 12, 2021

Shelly: Did you like Houndheart/Flamesnout before finding out she was a lesbian?


Er... no. I mean, I liked her because she's my best friend, but not in the way you mean.
ITCH ITCH
SHELLPAW WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME ABOUT FLOWERPAW SHE'S SO PRETTY
and i mean, she didn't hesitate to make her preferences known

JuliaCallahan Feb 8, 2021

Shellspring, what do you think of Lichenstream?

Shellheart - How did you die? You seem to think near murder or straight up murder is a good solution to many problems, have you ever committed murder in the past?

XahliahArtz Feb 9, 2021

To Shellspring, I've been curious...Why did you kill Deerstar? I'm still preettty confused..

...I drowned. I never killed anyone.
And stop being dramatic, that fluffy idiot didn't even lose all his lives.
He was just in the way.

But Shellspring..... we can't!
You can't deny our heterosexual feelings, Flamesnout...
i mean Houndheart
what the cat-hell is going on over there?
No idea, mom.
By the way, where's Harestrike? He hasn't appeared in like 3 chapters.
Who?
Also they
they
uwu i'm babey!!!
Deerstar pleas my family is dying
no time i'm babey

COMIC CREATOR MEME!

Name of Comic: The Dog Star Artist/s: Razmevry

1. What is the reason behind your comic's name? Did you ever consider using a different name in early development?

"The Dog Star" is the name of the original short story I wrote that the comic is based on. However, I did consider naming it "Sirius", as that is also technically the 'dog star'. But I don't really like one-word titles, and I didn't think enough people would get the reference to the star. Also, "The Dog Star" can be translated to "The Traitorous StarClan Cat", which fits the comic very well. (Hound being a synonym for traitor, StarClan cats being called 'stars'.)

2. Who is your protagonist and in what ways do you identify/relate to them if at all?

That would be Houndheart, also called Flamesnout. Genius job I did renaming my main damn character, huh.

Houndheart is certainly an exploration of my own problems with death, but I'm not nearly as impulsive or bold as she is.

3. Which character is: A) The easiest to draw; B) The hardest to draw; C) The most fun to draw?

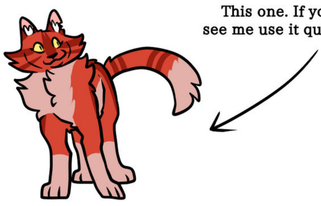
4. Why did you start your comic in the first place?

I've been drawing little comics and cartoons since I was a kid, and when I got on the Internet I' fell in love with webcomics. It was "Convocations" by eberkonig and "Doe of Deadwood" by Songdog-Strayfang that gave me the confidence to start my own webcomic. And Warriors is my oldest fandom, I don't think I'll ever be free of it. It was only natural.

5. How does your comic art differ from your normal art?

Probably more attention to backgrounds. I think I do the most complex backgrounds in TDS, and when I draw for other stuff I try to get away with as little as I can.

6. What is your favorite pose or expression to draw for a character?



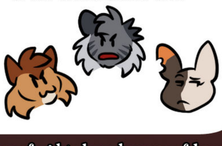
This one. If you look for it you'll see me use it quite a bit in the comic.

7. Give us 3 non-spoiler random facts about any of your comic characters.

1.) In the original drafts of the comic Lichenstream was just a random background character. I have no idea how she tricked me into writing a romance, I never intended to.

2.) Shellspring's grandmother was a Scottish fold.

3.) Deerstar's warrior name was Deerfleck, Reedstar's was Reedfang, and Newtstar's was Newtfoot. I'm counting that all as one 'leader names' fact.



8. Were there any scenes or reveals that you were afraid to have because of how people might react? -Spoiler Warning?-

Oh, yes. I was very worried about the 'Shellspring reveal' scene. Not only is it one of the biggest twists in the whole comic (although I hope I foreshadowed it decently enough), but Shellspring is a pretty well-liked character. I was concerned people were going to think it was bad writing or a stupid twist.

It has been one of the most consistent plot elements since conception, though.

9. What is the ultimate end goal for your comic? For example, do you dream of having a movie one day, or being published, or just finishing?

Honestly I just wanted to make a Warrior cats OC comic, and it was a big shock but a pleasant surprise that so many people enjoyed it. I'm not planning to go into an art field, even if I want to make more comics in the future. Hopefully TDS is just a good time for everyone while it lasts.

Meme by Songdog-StrayFang